

PCSRF WORKSHOP
Annual Performance Measures
for the
Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund

Workshop participants discussed methods of measuring annual performance and demonstrating accountability of the Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund (PCSRF) in achieving its goals. A draft framework setting an overall program goal, objectives and strategies, and metrics to measure annual and long term performance and accomplishments was developed.

The performance measures were developed to measure progress of the entire PCSRF program. For background on the program and on progress to date refer to the “Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund Report on FY2000 and FY2001 Programs” available online at: <http://www.nwr.noaa.gov/pcsrp>. The framework identified below is only targeted towards assessing the overall progress of the program.

The recovery of sustainable salmon runs will require a substantial investment over several salmon life cycles. The framework is being developed to track annual performance of the program, while at the same time providing reporting metrics to assess long-term effectiveness of the program in conservation and restoration of the ecosystems upon which Pacific salmon depend. Annual performance measures will be revised as the program matures to target different types of funded actions and different restoration priorities.

Key assumptions used in developing the framework include:

- Performance measures and reporting metrics must be consistent with existing programs
- Performance measures are to be reported annually
- Reporting metrics can be reported annually but used to evaluate long-term success

The key result areas that have been reported on in the past PCSRF report were recognized as program objectives. Suggested performance measures were developed for each of the areas. The five reporting areas are:

- 1) salmon habitat restoration
- 2) salmon recovery planning and assessment
- 3) salmon enhancement
- 4) salmon research, monitoring and evaluation
- 5) outreach and education

Over the first two years of the program, a majority of the funds received by states and tribes were used to conduct habitat restoration projects. A majority of the performance measures and reporting metrics are focused in this area. Salmon recovery planning and assessments, salmon stock enhancement, salmon research, monitoring and evaluation, and outreach and education are all being conducted to further efforts in restoring and maintaining healthy salmon populations.

Participants agreed that salmon recovery will take decades and long term goals of recovery are difficult, if not impossible, to measure on an annual basis. Most annual performance measures are administrative in nature. Other reporting metrics are designed to develop the data needed to determine the long-term trends in the ecological effectiveness of the program.

DRAFT FRAMEWORK

GOAL

The goal of the Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund is to make significant contributions to the conservation and restoration of healthy and sustainable Pacific salmon runs and the habitats upon which they depend across a wide range of environmental conditions to provide harvestable surpluses to support treaty and non-treaty fishing opportunities consistent with existing law.

OBJECTIVES/STRATEGIES

There are five objectives/strategies for the PCSRF, each listed below with performance measures.

1. Salmon Habitat Restoration - *Objective:* To complete habitat restoration projects that restore ecosystem characteristics and processes and address factors limiting salmonid production.

Performance Measures - [post-workshop development]

2. Salmon Recovery Planning and Assessment - *Objective:* To develop comprehensive watershed or subbasin plans that identify and prioritize factors limiting salmonid production and address measures needed to eliminate limiting factors.

Performance Measures - [post-workshop development]

3. Salmon Stock Enhancement - *Objective:* To conduct activities that enhance depressed stocks of wild anadromous salmonids through hatchery supplementation, reduction in fishing effort on depressed wild stocks, or enhancement of Pacific salmon fisheries on healthy stocks in Southeast Alaska.

Performance Measures - [post-workshop development]

4. Salmon Research, Monitoring and Evaluation (R,M&E) - *Objective:* To conduct research and monitoring on the effectiveness of habitat restoration and stock enhancement activities and to collect baseline information on the status of salmonid stocks in order to measure achievement of program goals over the long-term.

Performance Measures - [post-workshop development]

5. Outreach and Education - *Objective:* To educate constituencies on the value of salmon recovery, and the actions that must be taken to recover salmon and ensure sustainable salmon runs into the future.

Performance Measures - [post-workshop development]